

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5861

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 9552

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, VT, UK, XF

SUBJECT: CARADON PLAN FOR JERUSALEM

SUMMARY: BRITISH CHARGE TO HOLY SEE SUBMITTED TO VATICAN "ON PURELY PRIVATE BASIS" U.N. DRAFT RESOLUTION ON JERUSALEM PREPARED BY LORD CARADON. VATICAN STATED IT DOES NOT WISH TO TAKE POSITION AT THIS TIME ON DRAFT. END SUMMARY.

1. BRITISH LEGATION TO HOLY SEE CHARGE INFORMED ILLING JULY 9 THAT HE HAD DELIVERED TO VATICAN "ON PURELY PRIVATE BASIS" A UNGA DRAFT RESOLUTION ON JERUSALEM AND THE HOLY PLACES PREPARED BY LORD CARADON. FULL TEXT OF CARADON'S DRAFT AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

A. EAGER TO ENSURE THAT THE HOLY CITY OF JERUSALEM SHALL

FOREVER BY A CENTRE AND SYMBOL OF PEACE AND FREEDOM;

B. ANXIOUS MOREOVER THAT THE TRANQUILITY AND SECURITY OF THE

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HOLY CITY SHALL NOT ONLY BE PROTECTED BY THE RESPONSIBLE CIVIL

AND RELIGIOUS AUTHORITIES, BUT SHALL ALSO BE RECOGNIZED AND RESPECTED BY ALL MANKIND;

C. WISHING TO ASSIST IN MAINTAINING THE PERMANENT FREEDOM OF THE HOLY CITY FROM DISPUTE AND STRIFE, AND THE PEACEFUL PRESERVATION OF THE HOLY PLACES, AND THE SCRUPULOUS PROTECTION OF RELIGIOUS RIGHTS, PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES;

D. WISHING ALSO TO ASSIST IN ENSURING FOR ALL THE INHABITANTS OF THE HOLY CITY RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND, IN PARTICULAR, FREEDOM OF RELIGION, AND FOR EVERYONE FREE ACCESS TO THE HOLY PLACES;

E. CALLS FOR THE COMPLETE DEMILITARIZATION OF THE HOLY CITY, LEAVING CIVILIAN POLICE TO KEEP PUBLIC ORDER;

F. CALLS FOR THE FULL COOPERATION OF THE RESPONSIBLE CIVIL AND RELIGIOUS AUTHORITIES TO ENSURE THESE PURPOSES THROUGHOUT THE DESIGNATED AREA (TO BE SHOWN ON A MAP INCLUDING THE HOLY CITY AT BETHLEHEM AND THE NEIGHBOURING LANDS AND VILLAGES);

G. DECIDES TO REQUEST THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO APPOINT A HIGH COMMISSIONER (AND DEPUTY COMMISSIONER) TO BE STATIONED IN JERUSALEM, TO REPRESENT THE UNITED NATIONS AND TO WORK WITH ALL CONCERNED TO SECURE AND ENSURE THE PURPOSES OF THIS RESOLUTION, AND TO REPORT REGULARLY TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE SECURITY COUNCIL. END QUOTE.

2. BRITISH CHARGE SAID CARADON PROPOSING TO PRESENT HIS RESOLUTION AT U.N. AT SOME TIME IN FUTURE AFTER DISCUSSING HIS IDEAS WITH A NUMBER OF PEOPLE AND ORGANIZATIONS WHO MAY BE INTERESTED. CARADON DISCUSSED THIS DRAFT RESOLUTION WITH FORMER APOSTOLIC DELEGATE TO JERUSALEM AND PALESTINE, PIO LAGHI, WHO WAS APPARENTLY ENTHUSIASTICALLY IN FAVOR OF IT. CARADON HAS ALSO APPARENTLY CONVEYED IMPRESSION TO OTHERS WITH WHOM HE HAS SPOKEN THAT VATICAN ITSELF IS ENTHUSIASTIC OVER HIS GENERAL APPROACH. BRITISH CHARGE, HOWEVER, DID NOT RECEIVE SIMILARLY ENTHUSIASTIC RESPONSE FROM HIS VATICAN CONTACTS. HE PRESENTED DRAFT TO MIDDLE-LEVEL OFFICIAL WHO LATER REPORTED BACK THAT, AFTER CONSIDERATION, HIS SUPERIORS (UNDOUBTEDLY CASAROLI AND BENELLI) DID NOT WISH FOR HOLY SEE, IN ANY EVENT FOR TIME BEING, TO TAKE ANY POSITION ON IT. VATICAN TOLD CHARGE THAT THEY THINK QUESTION OF SOVEREIGNTY MUST BE SETTLED FIRST.

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3. UNOFFICIALLY, ALTHOUGH PROBABLY AS REFLECTION OF OFFICIAL VATICAN THINKING, HIS VATICAN SOURCE TOLD BRITISH CHARGE THAT VATICAN HAD NO OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE TO FIRST THREE POINTS OF RESOLUTION, HOWEVER, THAT FOURTH POINT REGARDING RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, ETC., WAS MUCH TOO LOOSELY WORDED. VATICAN SOURCE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF PROPOSED HIGH COMMISSIONER WOULD HAVE TO BE MUCH MORE CLEARLY DEFINED EVEN IN ANY RELATIVELY VAGUE GENERAL RESOLUTION WHICH MIGHT EVENTUALLY

BE TACKLED.

4. GIVEN THE VATICAN'S APPARENT LACK OF ENTHUSIASM, CHARGE
COULD NOT SPECULATE WHETHER CARADON PLANNED TO COME TO ROME TO
DISCUSS HIS PROPOSAL AT VATICAN. VOLPE

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